

del proceso y proporcionar escala a la comercialización. Actualmente se desarrolla en Argentina el "Programa Certificación en Grupo", liderado por el Sistema Argentino de Certificación Forestal con apoyo del gobierno de la Nación, que invierte en la asistencia técnica para la formación de grupos y en los costos iniciales de la certificación. La actual coyuntura económica del país, favorable a la exportación, sumada a la perspectiva de aumento de la demanda global por madera y a políticas de desarrollo del potencial forestal argentino, apuntan a una gran impulso para la certificación.

Monitoring of non-conformities of FSC forest certification audits in Brazil in 2018

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Forests are an important wealth for human being development providing shelter, food and wood for several uses. Despite its importance, many forests worldwide lack sustainable management practices and, in this sense, forest certification emerges as an important tool to regulate and ensure that wood products are made considering social, environmental and economic aspects of forests. However, forest certification still needs to overcome some challenges to be more implemented. This research aimed to analyse the non-conformities (NCs) of public reports of FSC forest certification audits to identify the difficulties and possible challenges for companies to obtain or maintain the label. In total, 64 public reports from 2018 were systematically analysed and 419 NCs were categorized according to the FSC principles, criteria and themes. The results showed that FSC principles 4 (Community relations and worker's rights) and principle 6 (Environmental Impact) presented the greatest number of NCs, representing 52% of all NCs of forest plantations, 62% for native forests and 44% for small scale (SLIMF). Overall, the topics more recurrent in NCs were labour, employment and gender equity (19%), monitoring the implementation of the management plan and its results (14%), the management plan itself (13%) and engagement and communication processes (12%). These results showed that companies seem to have difficulties to comply with social requirements as well as, developing and implementing the forest management plan. Social programs could be developed by companies and governments to enhance social approach of forest operations and there are opportunities to develop more literature regarding forest management plans.

Non-conformities related to pest management in companies certified by the forest stewardship council (FSC) in Brazil

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The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Pesticide Policy seeks the identification and prevention on the use of "highly hazardous" pesticides, the reduction and appropriate use of pesticides, and the use of alternative pest control strategies. Certified producers, mainly from tropical countries in the Southern Hemisphere, have experienced negative consequences of this policy on integrated pest management. The objective was to determine the most common nonconformities related to pest management in audits conducted in FSC certified companies in Brazil. All available reports on the FSC platform until March 2017 were downloaded, evaluated and separated by type of certificate (FM, FM/COC, FM/COC/SLIMF or FM/CW). Nonconformities were quantified and grouped into 13 categories and separated as a major or minor corrective action request (CAR). One hundred and eighty-seven reports were evaluated, of which 153 were FM/COC, 24 FM/COC/SLIMF, 7 FM/CW and 3 FM. Problems related to inadequate storage of pesticides, use of prohibited pesticides, absence or inappropriate use of PPE (personal protective equipment), misuse of chemicals, non-guarantee of pest management worker's rights and health, and absence of the environmental impact assessment plan associated with pesticide use, were the most common nonconformities. The certification has improved the integrated management of forest pests in Brazilian companies, specially with better security in the use and storage of pesticides and in the health and safety conditions of the workers.

Shaping the implementation of the FSC standard: the case of auditors in Brazil

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The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) label is one of the most robust and widely accepted standards aimed at assessing long-term sustainable forest management worldwide. Through audits, accredited certification bodies assess the level of conformity of a company's performance against the standard to grant or not the certificate on behalf of the FSC. In this paper, we assess the scope auditors have to shape the implementation of the FSC standard in Brazil. Our work is based on the analysis of certification bodies' rules and of 250 full assessment and annual audit reports covering the period 2005-2017, including native and plantations reports. All reports were publicly available on FSC database. The analysis was completed with interviews with key informants. We show that most indicators of the Brazilian FSC standard leave no scope for interpretation. However, companies are certified and re-certified with a significant number of minor non-conformance with social, legal and environmental indicators. We conclude that some indicators are too broad and need to be clarified. Also, conformity with some indicators depends on actions from governments. The development of new national standards is an opportunity to limit the risks of interpretation of indicators. The updating of standards is also an opportunity to clarify the role of public policies in respect of specific indicators. States wishing to promote FSC certification could seize this opportunity to identify what improvements are needed in the functioning of their institutions and public policies.

FSC's knowledge management journey

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Initiated in the 1990th, 3rd party, voluntary certification of forest management (FM) evolved over time. The Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) FM public audit reports yield a rich corpus of economic, social and environmental data (e.g., species, set-aside areas, ecosystem services, health and safety), needed to measure and demonstrate compliance of FM with the certification standard, and the effects of certification. To facilitate access to these data, FSC has set out on a journey to be fully digitally data driven, extracting knowledge and gaining insights from hard data from FM reports and forest products trade. With this journey FSC implements its members' General Assembly Motion to "Harnessing audit data to improve assurance integrity, monitoring and evaluation, and the value proposition for FSC" (Motion 2017 16). The modernized FSC audit capture and data analytics and reporting platform will enable FSC and stakeholders to use comparative analytical capabilities to test and compare reach and effectiveness of a variety of FSC strategic scenarios and improvements. Improved access to data will strengthen robustness of certification decision processes, allow evaluation of impacts of certification interventions. This will result in better demonstration of the value proposition for sustainable FM to inform decision making of forest managers, politicians, product buyers, and other stakeholders. We will present the set of knowledge products as key outcomes of this journey towards outcome-based decision making, such as dashboards, open data, real-time management and stakeholder reporting.